



Douglas County Local Public Safety Coordinating Council (LPSCC)
Temporary Justice Reinvestment (JRI) Subcommittee
Meeting Minutes

Noon, Tuesday, Sept. 17
Room 310, Douglas County Courthouse

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chris Boice, *Commissioner*; Rick Wesenberg, *District Attorney*;

MEMBERS ABSENT: Frances Burge, *Presiding Judge*; Joe Garcia, *Community Corrections*; Mike Nores, *Douglas CARES*

ALSO PRESENT: Jeff Frieze, *Undersheriff*; William Marshall, *Judge*; Melissa McRobbie-Toll, *LPSCC Coordinator*; Paul Robertson, *Adapt*; Lt. Mike Root, *Douglas County Jail*; Ann Marie Simmons, *Judge*; Robert Wilson, *Treatment Court Coordinator*;

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROGRAM

Subcommittee discussed the JRI-funded transitional housing program and received an update from Treatment Court Coordinator Robert Wilson, who has been working to confirm amounts for retroactive payments to landlords dating back to July 2018. That process is nearly complete and retroactive payments are being sent out by UCAN. Once the payments have all been sent, about \$13,000 of the \$24,000 in JRI funds allocated to this program will have been spent. That leaves \$11,000 to be spent before Dec. 30. Now that participation has opened up to all Drug Court and Mental Health Court participants, that may be feasible. Robert Wilson will continue to keep LPSCC informed about program expenditures.

If the program needs to be further spent down, Subcommittee discussed ideas including distributing the funds to other housing providers in the community who are providing emergency shelter and transitional housing; pre-paying for transitional housing beds; or putting up an additional cleaning deposit for high-risk renters. Robert Wilson said there are two new Oxford Houses for women that will open soon. He also said there is little to no mental health transitional housing in the area.

Commissioner Boice requested to explore feasibility of having LPSCC Coordinator perform financial administration for the Transitional Housing Fund.

PUBLIC DEFENDER FUNDS

LPSCC allocated \$24,000 in Justice Reinvestment funds to Umpqua Valley Public Defender, but that funding has not been spent and no contract has been signed between UVPD and County Finance. Commissioner Boice tasked LPSCC Coordinator with facilitating communication between those two entities and asked that this item be placed on the December LPSCC agenda for further discussion.

CONTRACTING OUT RSAT BEDS

Subcommittee further discussed the idea of contracting out RSAT beds to other counties. Discussion points included:

- **Flooding repairs** - The RSAT pod in the Jail needs repairs due to flooding. The repairs haven't started yet and will likely take several months.
- **Medical costs** - Jail concerns include ensuring that Douglas County won't be required to cover unexpected/significant medical costs for out-of-county inmates participating in the RSAT program.
- **Screening** - Jail also wants to ensure inmates are properly screened for appropriateness for the RSAT program. How would this information be provided by other counties? Lt. Root said it is possible to have other counties fill out a form created by Douglas County that would help give Jail staff here an idea of the inmate's past Jail behavior. Commissioner Boice said inmates could be ejected from the program at any time if they act out. Judge Simmons said information from the inmate's parole/probation officer would also be helpful.
- **Return to home counties** - All parties agreed that inmates from other counties should be returned to their county of origin following their release from RSAT. Any after-care would occur in the county of origin. Transport to and from originating county will be that county's responsibility.
- **Video chat prior to acceptance** – RSAT counselors could chat with potential participants via Skype before they are accepted into the program and transported to Douglas County.
- **Priority to Douglas County inmates** – Douglas County inmates would be prioritized over out-of-county inmates for RSAT participation.
- **Other counties' interest** – Coos County has expressed a strong interest in contracting with Douglas County for RSAT beds. Outreach can also be done to Josephine, Jackson Curry and other counties.
- **RSAT bed cost per day** – Based on the Jail's per-day bed cost plus treatment costs, the daily price for an RSAT bed is estimated at \$150.
- **RSAT staffing** – Paul Robertson said he doesn't anticipate needing to hire additional counselors in order to serve up to 18 people in the RSAT program; current staffing levels should suffice.

ACTION: *LPSCC Coordinator will sit down with each involved agency and work to develop a draft protocol for contracting out RSAT beds.*